

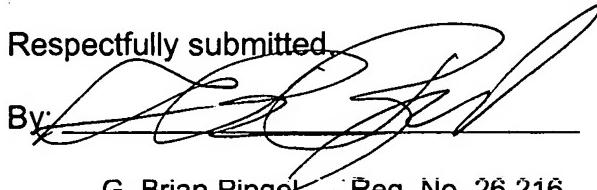
REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 8, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19 and 20 have been cancelled. Claim 1, 4, 11, and 17 have been amended. New claims 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 have been added. The title has been amended as required by the Examiner. In view of such amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, independent claims 1, 11 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,005,317. Although it is believed that the Examiner's claim rejections are unfounded, claims 1, 11 and 17 have been amended to include the patentable subject matter indicated to be allowable by the Examiner. The Examiner has indicated that claims 2-10, 12-16 and 18-20 are allowed over the prior art. And, accordingly, amended claims 1, 11 and 17 and new claims 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 were created based upon this indication of allowability. In view of such amendments and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and the same is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



G. Brian Pingel - Reg. No. 26,216
Camille L. Urban - Reg. No. 46,948
Brown, Winick, Graves, Gross,
Baskerville and Schoenebaum, P.L.C.
Regency West 5
4500 Westown Pkwy - Ste 277
West Des Moines, IA 50266-6717
Telephone: 515/242-2428
Facsimile: 515/242-2448

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT